

The F.J. Doyle Site is located at the southwest corner of North Poplar and East Cottonwood Street in Leonard, Fannin County, Texas. F.J. Doyle Salvage conducted salvage operations by stripping out-of-service power transmission transformers for recoverable metals. The facility consisted of a transformer dismantling shop and a concrete secondary containment pad used for the storage of drums and storage tanks containing fluids drained from the transformers.

The facility also used a high-temperature oven to burn residual oils, paper and varnish from the copper and aluminum transformer cores. It was reported that the owner used the oil in the past for weed control in the 1970's. The past use of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in electrical equipment such as transformers and capacitors was common until 1979 when PCBs were banned in the United States and became regulated under 40 C.F.R. Part 761.

The Site is surrounded by residential properties and a Leonard Independent School District (LISD) Daycare Facility, the Leonard Elementary school, High School, Junior High School, and Intermediate School.

The EPA removal program conducted an investigation of the Site in May 2018 and determined that various contaminants of concern (COCs), including PCBs, semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and metals, in the soil had migrated off-site.

The contaminants listed above were located on the non-fenced facility property as well as within public right-of-ways and residential properties allowing public access and potential exposure to those entering or using those areas for recreation or other purposes. The primary threat is for inadvertent ingestion but also to direct contact and inhalation especially to young children whom have the tendency to play in the soils. It also presents a threat to workers who may have to perform utility repairs.

EPA OSCs and EPA contractors mobilized to the site to initiate a removal action on November 5, 2018. To date, the EPA team has demolished the F.J. Doyle process building and concrete slab/containment; excavated contaminated soil from 21 grids at residential properties, and transported 653 tons of PCB-contaminated soil for off-site disposal. Site control measures are also in place at the site to protect the workers, the environment and the public including: temporary fencing, surface water erosion controls, and air monitoring. The EPA OSC continues to coordinate with local and State representatives and has an extraordinary relationship with the Leonard Community. The removal action is ongoing and is estimated for completion in early 2019.